

2005 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

U. S. Air Force Base - Little Rock

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. We purchase treated water from Jacksonville Water Works whose sources are eleven wells that pump from the Quaternary System Aquifer. Jacksonville Water Works also purchases water from Central Arkansas Water, which receives its supply from two surface water sources: Lake Winona and Lake Maumelle. Both lakes can supply Jackson Reservoir, a regulating reservoir located in Little Rock. Water is delivered by pipeline to the Jack H. Wilson and Ozark Point water treatment plants. Both treatment facilities are located in Little Rock.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; Organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive contaminants which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The Arkansas Department of Health & Human Services has completed Source Water Vulnerability Assessments for Jacksonville Water Works and Central Arkansas Water. The assessments summarize the potential for contamination of our sources of drinking water and can be used as a basis for developing source water protection plans. Based on the various criteria of the assessments, our water sources have been determined to have a low to high susceptibility to contamination. You may request summaries of the Source Water Vulnerability Assessments from the Office of Bioenvironmental Engineering.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In order to assure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Major Steve Novak, Bioenvironmental Engineer, at 501-987-7398. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Our water system currently holds no public meetings. If you want to learn more, please contact Major Novak at the aforementioned phone number.

U. S. Air Force Base - Little Rock, Jacksonville Water Works, and Central Arkansas Water routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The test results table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2005. In the table you might find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

USAF-LITTLE ROCK – U. S. Air Force Base - Little Rock

JWW – Jacksonville Water Works

CAW-OP – Central Arkansas Water Ozark Point water treatment plant

CAW-JW – Central Arkansas Water Jack H. Wilson water treatment plant

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA – not applicable

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – a unit of measurement for the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Parts per million (ppm) – a unit of measurement for detected levels of contaminants in drinking water. One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) - a unit of measurement for detected levels of contaminants in drinking water. One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

TEST RESULTS						
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Turbidity (CAW-OP)	N	Highest yearly sample result: 0.39	NTU	NA	> 0.3NTU in > 5% of samples or any 1 sample > 1 NTU	Soil runoff
		Lowest monthly % of samples meeting the turbidity limit: 99%				
Turbidity (CAW-JW)	N	Highest yearly sample result: 0.15				
		Lowest monthly % of samples meeting the turbidity limit: 100%				
♦ Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.						
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Fluoride (JWW)	N	Average: 1.14 Range: 0.42 – 5.37	ppm	4	Annual Average > 4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Fluoride (CAW-OP)	N	Average: 0.90 Range: 0.04 – 1.50				
Fluoride (CAW-JW)	N	Average: 0.74 Range: 0.03 – 1.05				
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (JWW)	N	Average: 0.65 Range: 0.48 – 0.81	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (CAW-OP)	N	0.08				
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (CAW-JW)	N	0.06				
LEAD AND COPPER TAP MONITORING						
Contaminant	Number of Sites over Action Level	90 th Percentile Result	Unit of Measurement	Action Level	Major Sources in Drinking Water	
Lead (USAF-Little Rock)	0	0.002	ppm	0.015	Corrosion from household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (USAF-Little Rock)	0	0.20	ppm	1.3		
♦ U. S. Air Force Base – Little Rock Water System is on a reduced monitoring schedule and required to sample once every three years for lead and copper at the customers' taps. Our last monitoring period was in 2004. Our next required monitoring period is the year 2007.						
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCT PRECURSORS – Central Arkansas Water						
♦ The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was routinely monitored in 2005, and our water system met all TOC removal requirements set by USEPA. Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products. These by-products include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs).						
REGULATED DISINFECTANTS						
Disinfectant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MRDLG	MRDL	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chlorine (USAF-Little Rock)	N	Average: 1.0 Range: 0.34 – 1.7	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLES						
♦ These are investigative samples, collected for EPA under the Disinfectants Disinfection By-Products Rule						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Major Sources in Drinking Water
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (USAF-Little Rock)	NA	Highest running annual average: 28.2 Range: 1.4 – 53.5	ppb	0	60	By-products of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (USAF-Little Rock)	NA	Highest running annual average: 64.3 Range: 3.2 – 91.6	ppb	NA	80	
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminant		Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Major Sources in Drinking Water	
Chloroform (CAW-OP)		17.1	ppb	NA	By-products of drinking water disinfection	
Bromodichloromethane (CAW-OP)		1.28	ppb	0		
Chloroform (CAW-JW)		24.3	ppb	NA		
Bromodichloromethane (CAW-JW)		6.09	ppb	0		
Dibromochloromethane (CAW-JW)		1.17	ppb	60		
♦ Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. MCLs (Maximum Contaminant Levels) and MCLGs (Maximum Contaminant Level Goals) have not been established for all unregulated contaminants.						